Amendment of the Claims

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 40 (to insert a colon after the word "comprising") as shown below.

Claims 1-20 (Previously Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method for accessing multiple types of electronic content, comprising:

receiving a request for a computer program to process an input to obtain an output comprising a type of content that is unknown to the computer program, wherein a service manager connects the computer program to at least one service container to process the input to obtain the output, wherein said at least one service container includes at least a data object, a code object, and a loader identification that enable definition of the type of content unknown to the computer program;

selecting at least one segment of computer code from a plurality of segments of computer code that will enable the computer program to process the input, when the at least one segment of computer code is executed along with the computer program, to provide the output comprising the type of content that is unknown to the computer program, the at least one segment of computer code being selected without reference to any embedded link by said computer program; and

executing the at least one segment of computer code along with the computer program to process the input and obtain the output comprising the type of content that is unknown to the computer program, wherein the plurality of segments of computer code and the at least one segment of computer code are not executable as an independent computer program.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein selecting at least one segment of computer code comprises selecting at least two segments of computer code from the plurality of segments of computer code whose combined functionality will enable the computer program to process the input, when the at least two segments of computer code are executed along with the computer program, to provide the output comprising the type of content that is unknown to the computer program, the at least two segments of computer code being selected based upon the functionality that each provides.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising configuring the at least two segments of computer code to be executed along with the computer program in a particular order to provide a desired processing of the input.

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24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising configuring the at least two segments of computer code into a master-slave relationship that causes the execution of one of the at least two segments of computer code to be dependent on the execution of another of the at least two segments of computer code.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein executing the at least one segment of computer code comprises integrating the at least one segment of computer code into the computer program and executing the computer program to process the input and obtain the output comprising the type of content that is unknown to the computer program.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein receiving a request for a computer program to process an input comprises receiving a command to translate a word from a first language to a second language.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein receiving a request for a computer program to process an input comprises receiving a command to convert a number from a first number format to a second number format.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein receiving a request for a computer program to process an input comprises receiving a command to convert a text object from a first text format to a second text format.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein receiving a request for a computer program to process an input comprises receiving a command to convert a graphical object from a first graphical format to a second graphical format.

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30. (Previously Presented) A computer system for accessing multiple types of electronic content, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory in communication with the processing unit; and

a computer program stored in the memory that provides instructions to the processing unit, wherein the processing unit is responsive to the instructions, operable for:

identifying a plurality of segments of computer code that can be executed along with the computer program by the processing unit in response to the instructions;

selecting, in response to an input command to access at least one type of content that the computer program is not configured to access, at least one segment of computer code from the plurality of segments of computer code that can be executed along with the computer program by the processing unit, in response to the instructions, to access the at least one type of content that the computer program is not configured to access, wherein a service manager connects the computer program to at least one service container in response to the input command, wherein said computer program is not directed to the plurality of segments of computer code by any embedded link referenced by said computer program, and wherein said at least one service container includes at least a data object, a code object, and a loader identification that enable definition of the type of content unknown to the computer program; and

executing the at least one segment of computer code along with the computer program to access the at least one type of content that the computer program is not configured to access; wherein the plurality of segments of computer code and the at least one segment of computer code are not executable as an independent computer program.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 30, wherein the processing unit, responsive to the instructions, is further operable for:

arranging in the memory the at least one segment of computer code and a data, comprising the at least one type of content that the computer program is not configured to access, into a function-content group; and

interfacing the function-content group to the computer program to enable the computer program to access the at least one type of content that the computer program is not configured to access.

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32. (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 30, wherein the processing unit, responsive to the instructions, is operable for identifying a plurality of segments of computer code by:

locating at least two segments of computer code from the plurality of segments of computer code that each comprise a portion of computer code that indicates they can be executed by the processing unit along with the computer program; and

generating a list in the memory comprising an identifier for each of the at least two segments of computer code that indicates that the at least two segments of computer code are available to be executed by the processing unit along with the computer program.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 30, wherein the processing unit, responsive to the instructions, is operable for selecting at least one segment of computer code by selecting at least two segments of computer code from the plurality of segments of computer code whose combined functionality will allow the computer program to access the at least one type of content that the computer program is not configured to access when the at least two segments of computer code are executed by the processing unit along with the computer program.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 33, wherein the processing unit, responsive to the instructions, is further operable for configuring the at least two segments of computer code to be executed by the processing unit along with the computer program in a particular order to allow the computer program to access the at least one type of content that the computer program is not configured to access.

35. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 33, wherein the processing unit, responsive to the instructions, is further operable for configuring the at least two segments of computer code into a master-slave relationship that causes the execution of one of the at least two segments of computer code to be dependent on the execution of another of the at least two segments of computer code.

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36. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for accessing multiple types of electronic content, comprising:

logic for creating a list that comprises information about a plurality of segments of computer code that can be executed along with a computer program;

logic for choosing at least one segment of computer code from the plurality of segments of computer code, based on the information in the list, that can be executed along with the computer program to process a type of data that the computer program is not designed to process, wherein said computer program is not directed to the at least one segment of computer code by any embedded link referenced by said computer program;

logic to execute the at least one segment of computer code along with the computer program in response to an input to provide an output of the type of data that the computer program is not designed to process, wherein a service manager connects the computer program to at least one service container in response to the input, wherein said at least one service container includes at least a data object, a code object, and a loader identification that enable definition of the type of content unknown to the computer program; and

wherein the plurality of segments of computer code and the at least one segment of computer code are not executable as an independent computer program.

37. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 36, further comprising logic for choosing at least two segments of computer code from the plurality of segments of computer code, based on the information in the list, which can be executed along with the computer program to process a type of data that the computer program is not designed to process.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, further comprising logic for linking the at least two segments of computer code in a specific order of execution to provide a desired output of data that the computer program is not designed to process when the at least two segments of computer code are executed along with the computer program.

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39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the logic for creating a list that comprises information about a plurality of segments of computer code comprises:

logic for identifying at least two segments of computer code that each comprise a registration code that indicates that they can be executed along with the computer program; and

logic for generating a list comprising an identification code for each of the at least two segments of computer code that indicates that the at least two segments of computer code are available to be executed along with the computer program.

40. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 36, further comprising:

logic for arranging the at least one segment of computer code and a data element, comprising the type of data that the computer program is not designed to process, into a function-data group; and

logic for interfacing the function-data group to the computer program to enable the computer program to provide the output of the type of data that the computer program is not designed to process.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein each service container comprises a data object, a code object, and a loader identification.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41, wherein each code object references at least one service object.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 42, wherein each service object is stored in a cache, separate from each service container.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 30, wherein each service container comprises a data object, a code object, and a loader identification.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 44, wherein each code object references at least one service object.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 45, wherein each service object is stored in a cache, separate from each service container.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 36, wherein each service container comprises a data object, a code object, and a loader identification.

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48. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 47, wherein each code object references at least one service object.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 48, wherein each service object is stored in a cache, separate from each service container.

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50. (Previously Presented) A method for accessing multiple types of electronic content from a program, comprising the steps of:

defining a plurality of service containers accessible to the program, each service container corresponding to a specific function, each service container including:

a data object, such that each data object includes data required to enable the specific function corresponding to the service container to be achieved;

a code object, each code object referencing at least one segment of programming code stored separately from the service container, such that the at least one segment of programming code referenced by the code object includes programming code required to enable the specific function corresponding to the service container to be achieved; and

a loader identification, the loader identification providing the program with information required to load the segment of programming code referenced by the code object;

requesting an input to be processed to obtain an output;

identifying one of the plurality of service containers whose corresponding specific function is able to process the input;

parsing the service container thus identified, to determine:

data required to enable the specific function corresponding to the service container to be achieved;

an identity of the at least one segment of programming code required to enable the specific function corresponding to the service container to be achieved; and

information required to load each segment of programming code referenced by the code object;

retrieving the at least one segment of programming code required to enable the specific function corresponding to the service container to be achieved; and

executing the at least one segment of computer code under the control of the computer program to process the input and obtain the output, wherein said computer program is not directed to the at least one segment of computer code by any embedded link referenced by said computer program.

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